ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An apparatus and method for transmitting forward link data to a handoff mobile station in a CDMA communication system. A service sector for the handoff mobile station registers the other sectors in the active set of the handoff mobile station as idle sectors upon request of a data service from the handoff mobile station, and transmits data traffic to the handoff mobile station, while the sectors designated as idle sectors discontinue transmission of data traffic and transition to an idle state.